

File

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING ON LOWER FREMONT RIVER,
OAK CREEK AND PLEASANT CREEK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

The meeting was held April 4, 1966 at the Wayne County Courthouse in Loa, Utah concerning the distribution of the waters of Lower Fremont River, Oak Creek and Pleasant Creek for the 1966 irrigation season.

The meeting was conducted by Judge Ferdinand Erickson, with representatives of the State Engineer's Office present. A complete list of those present is as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Judge Ferdinand Erickson	District Judge
Hubert C. Lambert	State Engineer
Earl M. Staker	State Engineer's Office
Thomas Chappell	River Commissioner
Owen L. Jeffs	Caineville Irrigation
Golden Durfey	Self
DeLoyd Curtis	Torrey Irrigation Company
Emmett Clark	Dez Hickman Ranch
Clyde Behumin	Torrey Irrigation Company
Dee B. Hatch	Garkane Power Association
G. Dewey Gifford	Self
J. Monroe Pace	Torrey Irrigation Company
Charles Blackburn	Charles Blackburn Ranch
C. L. Mulford	Torrey Irrigation Company
Harry P. Linder	Capitol Reef National Monument
Frank Montford	Capitol Reef National Monument
John V. Christensen	Christensen Ranches, Inc., Torrey, Utah
Talmage Jensen	Self and Boyd Hiskey

The financial statement for the 1965 season was given by Earl Staker, Area Engineer, from the Price Area Office, which was approved as read.

Judge Erickson opened the meeting with a few general remarks as to the upcoming irrigation season. Due to the mix-up concerning the time of the meeting, Judge Erickson requested that the time and day be fixed for future water users meetings. It was decided that the meeting would be held on the first Monday in April at 2:00 p.m.

Judge Erickson then asked for remarks from the water users present concerning water distribution or any other matters that may seem necessary.

The following were the particular items that were brought up and discussed:

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1. There was considerable discussion as to the basis of assessment that the State Engineer's Office was levying at the present time. It was Judge Erickson's thinking, and also the thinking of the group, that we continue this year to assess as we have been, but next year and the years following, it be assessed on the basis of acre-foot delivery.
2. Mr. Dewey Gifford of Fruita, stated that he was being over-charged on his assessment and that he had been promised that this error would be corrected before now. He claims to have only 6 acres of irrigation and we are charging him for 12.2 acres. He stated that the acreage over and above his six (6.2) should be charged to the Capitol Reef National Monument.
3. There was a question concerning the arrangements Mr. Thomas Chappell, Water Commissioner, had with a person in Hanksville to call him when the water was low at Hanksville so he could then make adjustments up along the river. Mr. Chappell explained why he had been doing this, as it saves the water users money, because he needn't make numerous trips to Hanksville to check the water.
4. Judge Erickson read the State Engineer's recommendation to the court concerning the Glen Whitby water right at Hanksville and explained the procedure to follow if anyone wished to appeal this decision. The Judge confirmed the State Engineer's recommendations and informed Mr. Chappell, Water Commissioner, to deliver the water at Hanksville.
5. The ever-occurring problem of Garkane Power Association fluctuating the river was brought up again. Much discussion followed, but nothing was resolved. It was suggested that the water be turned down past the power plant for 30 days during low water periods to see if any effects would be noticed by the water users below. Judge Erickson was going to discuss this suggestion with the power company.
6. Judge Erickson explained to the group that he wished to bring in under the distribution system, a spring, sometimes known as Willie Smith Spring, owned by Clyde Behunin and Richard Ekker. The State Engineer's Office is to assist Mr. Chappell and furnish him with the necessary filings and court orders.

The budget and assessment for 1966 was discussed and the decision reached by the group that they set up a budget for 1966 of \$2400.00 and that the assessment be levied for \$2000.00 with the difference being made up from their bank reserves.

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Mr. Thomas Chappell will continue as the court-appointed Water Commissioner for the 1966 season on the Lower Fremont River, Oak Creek and Pleasant Creek Distribution System.

There being no further business, the Judge express his appreciation for everyone's attendance and the meeting adjourned.

EMS:cp